

Service Date: July 20, 2005

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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|--|---|------------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF NORTHWESTERN ENERGY,            | ) | UTILITY DIVISION       |
| Application for Approval of 2005 Avoided Cost    | ) |                        |
| Compliance Filing -- Schedules QFLT-1 and STPP-1 | ) | DOCKET NO. D2005.6.103 |
|  | ) | ORDER NO. 6675         |

**INTERIM ORDER**

On June 24, 2005, NorthWestern Energy (NWE), 40 East Broadway Street, Butte, Montana 59701, filed before the Public Service Commission (PSC) an application for approval of NWE's annual (2005) qualifying facility avoided cost compliance filing regarding NWE's qualifying facility long term (QFLT-1) tariff and short term power purchase (STPP-1) tariff. In its filing NWE requests a decrease in escalating rates (energy from 4.6578 to 4.2415 cents per kilowatt hour, capacity from \$73.026 to \$65.765 per kilowatt per year) and an increase in partially escalating rates (energy from 1.5625 to 1.5831 cents per kilowatt hour, capacity from \$1.7580 to \$1.794 per kilowatt per year). The PSC approves the change in rates on an interim basis. Interim rates are subject to rebate or surcharge provisions, if the rates approved on a final basis are different than those approved on an interim basis.

Done and dated this 6th day of July, 2005, by a vote of 5-0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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GREG JERGESON, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice-Chairman

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DOUG MOOD, Commissioner

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ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

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THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Connie Jones  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.